

The Chuck-will's-widow (*Antrostomus carolinensis*) in Massachusetts.—In the month of December, 1884, I found, in the barn of Mr. Geo. A. Tapley, in the town of Revere, Mass., the dried skin of a bird which Mr. Tapley thought was that of a 'strange Whip-poor-will.' The bird was intact, and at first sight one would suppose it to be a stuffed instead of a dried specimen. Attracted by the large size of the bird, the yellow coloration of the plumage, and other signs, I thought I had discovered a species new to this State; namely, the Chuck-will's-widow, or Southern Whip-poor-will. On presenting the specimen to Mr. Allen, of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, my opinion was confirmed. Mrs. Tapley says the bird was caught in October by a cat. I need not say that I am greatly pleased with having been the means of adding a new species to the list of Massachusetts birds. That the specimen was weak enough to be caught by a cat seems to indicate that it may have been *blown* to our State by a gale.—FLETCHER OSGOOD, *Chelsea, Mass.*

The Hawk Owl in Eastern Massachusetts.—Mr. Brewster's interesting article on *Surnia funerea* in the last number of 'The Auk' (Jan., 1885, p. 108) reminds me that I have in my notebook a record of an example which I have neglected to make public. This, perhaps, should be done, as it antedates, so far as I can learn, all previous records, when the year is certainly given, for Massachusetts.

The Hawk Owl is mentioned in Mr. Peabody's 'Report' of 1839, but merely in a general way—"seldom wanders into New England." It does not appear in Mr. Allen's 'List' of 1864, but is given in his 'List' of 1878, as 'very rare.' Mr. Babcock's specimen, noted in the 'American Naturalist,' 1869, was taken, as Mr. Babcock informs me, in 1862 or 1863.

In January, 1860, a neighbor called with the request that I would come and see a strange Owl he had just shot, and, being merely wing-tipped, had put in a cage with the view of making a pet of him. I found it to be of this species. His wing healed, and he became fairly tame, and on occasional visits I found he bore confinement well, and his good appetite made a constant demand on his keeper. This state of things continued more than a year; but in the spring of 1861, being exposed one night to a sudden fierce and cold storm, which beat into his cage on account of a change of wind, he was found the next morning dead under the perch. He was brought to me according to request, but his plumage, of course already injured by confinement, was in such a deplorable condition, from the soaking and filth at the bottom of the cage, that my courage was not equal to the occasion, and I reluctantly threw him away.—F. C. BROWNE, *Framingham, Mass.*

The Ptarmigan of Anticosti—a Correction.—In a recent paper* on some birds observed in the Gulf of St. Lawrence I followed Verrill † in

* 'Notes on the Birds observed during a Summer Cruise in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.' Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., Vol. XXII, Oct. 3, 1883, pp. 364-412.

† Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., Vol. IX, Dec. 1862, p. 138.